

## CHAPTER 5

### U.S. NONMILITARY DECORATIONS

#### A. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Chapter is to furnish policy guidance to the Military Departments about the recognition and wearing of U.S. nonmilitary decorations.

#### B. POLICY

1. Members of civilian groups recognized under Section 1123, title 10, U.S.C. (reference (n)) shall not receive military decorations if the recognized group had a civilian system of decorations. Such civilian decorations are considered by the Department of Defense as equivalent to military awards that would have been issued to military members for similar acts, achievements, or periods of service. That policy conforms to DoD guidance that prevents multiple awards for the same acts, achievements, or periods of service. (See Chapter 3, subsection B. 10., above.)

2. Members of the Armed Forces of the United States who are authorized to accept and wear U.S. nonmilitary decorations shall observe the following when wearing such decorations or the ribbons symbolic, thereof

a. U.S. nonmilitary decorations shall be worn immediately following U.S. military decorations and preceding service medals.

b. Normally, when a Service member has been awarded and is authorized to wear more than one U.S. nonmilitary decoration, such decorations shall be worn in the order of date of acceptance. However, there are two exceptions to that policy. For members of the Military Services, when two or more decorations from the same Agency are worn, the order shall be in accordance with the precedence established by the awarding Agency regardless of date of acceptance. For members of the U.S. Coast Guard, precedence for all U.S. nonmilitary decorations shall be determined by the Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard.

c. No U.S. nonmilitary decoration shall be worn on the Service member's uniform, unless at least one U.S. military decoration or Service medal is worn at the same time.